

CLAIMS:

1. A mechanical pencil comprising:
 - a body (1) extending longitudinally along an axis X between a forward writing end (2) and a rear end (3),
 - an endpiece (4) situated at the forward end (2),
 - a lead guide (5) that can be retracted into the endpiece (4) and comprises a conduit (6) for the passage of a lead (9) and for its guidance in translational movement along the axis X, and
 - a lead brake (13) made of an elastically deformable material connected to the lead guide, said lead brake (13) comprising at least one region of friction (F') between the lead and the lead brake to limit the movement of the lead (9) in the lead guide (13), and at least one region of friction (F) between the endpiece and the lead brake to limit the movement of the lead guide (9) in the endpiece (4), characterized in that each region of friction (F) between the lead and the lead brake is shifted angularly about the axis X relative to each region of friction (F') between the endpiece and the lead brake.
2. The mechanical pencil as claimed in claim 1, wherein the lead brake (13), considered perpendicularly to the axis X, is of an elongate shape, regions of endpiece-lead brake friction (F') being formed at each end of the elongate shape.
3. The mechanical pencil as claimed in either of the preceding claims, wherein the lead brake (13) is of an annular shape.
4. The mechanical pencil as claimed in one of the preceding claims, wherein the lead brake (13) is held on the lead guide (5) between two shoulders (10, 11).
5. The mechanical pencil as claimed in one of the preceding claims, wherein the conduit (6) of the lead guide (5) comprises at least one opening (14) through which the lead brake (13) acts on the lead (9), in a region of lead-lead-guide friction (F).
6. The mechanical pencil as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, wherein two diametrically opposed regions of endpiece-lead brake friction (F') are provided, and wherein two diametrically opposed regions of lead-lead brake friction (F)

are provided, said regions of lead-lead brake friction (F') being angularly shifted through about 90 degrees relative to the regions of lead-lead brake friction.

7. The mechanical pencil as claimed in one of the preceding claims, wherein the lead brake (13) is torus-shaped before being fitted on the lead guide (5).

8. The mechanical pencil as claimed in one of claims 1-6, wherein the lead guide (5) and the lead brake (13) form a one-piece component composed of at least two materials.

9. The mechanical pencil as claimed in claim 8, wherein the lead guide (5) has at least one portion made of a synthetic resin on which the lead brake (13) is overmolded, preferably by a two-shot injection molding process, in an elastomer.

10. The mechanical pencil as claimed in one of the preceding claims, wherein the lead guide (5) forms the forward end of a cartridge (25) comprising a lead feed mechanism and mounted removably inside the body (1).